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6/5/96

June 6, 1996

TO: Captain Jeff Urban
FROM: Captain Rich Calderon
REF: Shotgun Incident, 05/23/96

Jeff,

I feel this incident needed to be brought to your attention so you may take the appropriate action.

On May 23, 1996, at the start of afternoon shift, I was in Captain Hitchcock's office discussing the upcoming auction. Officer Dan Risinger contacted me over the radio to come out back. I left Captain Hitchcock's office and went to the parking lot. Officer Risinger and Officer Ray Nelson were both standing by cruiser 422. The back door of the cruiser was open and the shotgun from the cruiser was laying on the backseat. Officer Risinger stated this was the way he found the car and shotgun. Officer Risinger also stated the wires were hanging down from the dash.

On May 24, 1996, I came into pick up my check and Officer Dave Cimperman was sitting desk. I knew Officer Cimperman was driving 422 on May 23, 1996 as I came out early that day. I asked Officer Cimperman what the situation was. Officer Cimperman said he was working on the cruiser and placed the shotgun in the backseat. At some point, Officer Denny Vitt told Officer Cimperman that he would give Cimperman a ride home. Officer Cimperman advised he went home and forgot about the gun.

This is a dangerous situation as someone could have been injured, if not killed.

Attached are copies of statements from Officers Risinger and Ray Nelson.

Sincerely,

Capt. Rich Calderon
Captain Rich Calderon

Letter To ol
for Disc Action.
6/5/96
[Signature]

CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO

POLICE DEPARTMENT

I Ray Nelson do hereby give the following statement of my own free will, without any force, threats, duress, compulsion or promises and have been advised of my rights of counsel.

On May 23rd at the start of my shift I walked outside with Officer Rieinger. As he was getting into his cruiser, Car 422 he called me over to look at something lying on the back seat of the car which was unlocked was one of the department shotguns, fully loaded. At this time Chief Staggars and Capt. Calderon were also called out to view this matter. I then left to assume my patrol duties.

Ray Nelson

CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO

POLICE DEPARTMENT

I Officer Dan Risinger do hereby give the following statement of my own free will, without any force, threats, duress, compulsion or promises and have been advised of my rights of counsel.

After reporting for duty on Thursday, May 23, 1996. Officer Risinger removed the keys for car 422 and exited the Police Sta. with Officer Ray Nelson. At first glance, I observed the drivers side rear door ajar. I looked in thru the window and laying on the back seat was a shotgun. I immediatly called Officer Nelson over to view this. I then opened the door to see if anything else was in the back seat area. Laying on the floor, I noticed what appeared to be some type of black cable that was attached to an antenna. Risinger then opened the drivers door to car 422 and saw that the shotgun rack was open. I then called for Capt. Calderon to observe the condition of the car as I had just found it. After Capt. Calderon and Chief Stagers observed the car, I attempted to place and secure the shotgun into the shotgun rack of car 422. I was unable to get the gun into the rack as a group of wiring was hanging down from under the dash, preventing the gun to go into the rack properly. I moved the wires to the side and was able to secure the gun in the rack. I tested the gun lock several times and it worked properly. I then took the black cable and the antenna and placed it in the trunk of car 422. I then started my road duties.

TO. Dan Risinger